WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1. A computing system, wherein applications access databases to obtain

2   data and the databases are updated from time to time and the applications require

3   consistent data from the databases even while an update is occurring, the computing

4   system comprising:

5   a first database;

6   a second database, wherein the first database and second database a substantive

7   copies of each other outside of an update period;

8   a database indicator that indicates one of the first and second databases as a live

9   database and the other one of the first and second databases as a load database;

10   a query router for routing queries from application to the live database; and

11   a router switcher for switching the database indicator such that the live database

12   becomes the load database and the load database becomes the live database.

1   2. The computing system of claim 1, wherein the queries from an

2   application to the live database are in the form of SQL queries.

1   3. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update router

2   for routing updates from an updater to the load database.

1   4. The computing system of claim 3, wherein the updates from an updater

2   to the load database are in the form of SQL statements.

1   5. The computing system of claim 1, further comprising an update cache

2   that stores updates from the updater including logic to initiate update of the live database

3   with the stored updates when the live database becomes the load database.

1   6. A method for providing consistent information from a database

2   management system comprising a plurality of databases, comprising:

3   receiving a request for a first information item by said database management system;

4   processing said request by a first database of said database management system,

5   when said request is for a read operation;

6   processing said request by a second database of said database management system,

7   when said request is for a write operation; and

8   following a database update period, switching the roles of the first database and the

9   second database such that the database that processed reads then processes writes

10   and the database that processed writes then processes reads.